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<u>DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS, IMAGE PROCESSING</u> APPARATUS, AND METHOD THEREFOR

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

It is one object of the invention to optimize watermark data that indicate additional information, such as copyright information, in accordance with the contents of object data, and, for example, to embed the watermark data in image data.

An image divider 200 divides image data Vi into image blocks Iij, and corresponds a selected basic pattern Phij with each of the image blocks Iij. Orthogonal transformation units 24 and 202 generate DFT coefficients I'ij and P'hij, and power element calculators 208 and 264 generate power elements I"ij and P"ij. A basic pattern adjustment unit 26 adjusts the coefficient of P'hij to generate P'hij1 to P'hijn. A watermark pattern generator 28 calculates variations before and after P'hij1 to P'hijn are embedded in I"ij, and selects, from P'hij1 to P'hijn, P"'hij1 to P'hij1 that provide variations equal to or smaller than the threshold value e. Then, the watermark pattern generator 28 selects, as a watermark pattern P'ij, the pattern that is most easily detectable, and for embedding, a pattern embedding unit 204 adds P'ij to I'ij.